

**RECESSED MEETING  
JANUARY 12, 2000**

The Ashland Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session in the Commission Chambers, City Building, Ashland, Kentucky, on Wednesday, January 12, 2000, at the hour of 5:00 PM. Those present were Commissioners: Nancy Dickinson, Paul Reeves, Kevin Gunderson, Michael Stewart and Mayor A. R. Dunnigan, who presided. Also present were: Tony Grubb, Acting City Manager; Richard W. Martin, Corporation Counsel; Kevin P. Sinnette, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Deborah Musser, City Clerk; Mark Osborne, Fire Chief; Tom Kelley, Chief of Police; Marion Russell, Acting Director of Public Services; Douglas E. Burns, Director of Planning & Community Development; Shea Horton, Ombudsman and Reporters.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

John McClanahan, BZA  
Lew Dunn, Ashland/Boyd County Airport  
Russ Powell, Paramount Arts Center  
Kathy Timmons, Paramount Arts Center  
Melissa Behnke, Ashland Planning Commission & BZA  
Michael Quade, Ashland Planning Commission & Ashland Main Street  
Rannie Cooper, Economic Development Committee  
Tom Lewis, The Daily Independent  
Lynne Austin, The Herald Dispatch  
Rob Serey, Ashland Planning Commission  
Bill Earwood, BZA  
Bruce Mills, Kentucky Highlands Museum & Discovery Center  
Bruce Davis, Ashland Main Street  
Bob Curtis, Ashland Main Street  
Gene LeBrun, Jr., Ashland Main Street  
Mark Valentine, Ashland Main Street  
Norman Boulay, Ashland Main Street  
Elaine Corbitt, Ashland Main Street  
Chuck Charles, King's Daughters' Health Foundation  
E.B. Gevedon, Economic Development Committee  
Jim Purgerson, Ashland Alliance  
Dave Young, Ashland Planning Commission, Ashland Main Street  
Betty Irwin, 1416 Montgomery Avenue, Ashland  
Polly J. Rideout, 2224 Bath Avenue, Ashland  
Nancy Payne, 2209 Moore Street, Ashland  
Jo Etta Lynch, Ashland Main Street (Frame Up Gallery/Coffee House)  
Jim Powers, 727 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Ashland  
David H. Stroth, 2615 Terrace Blvd., Ashland  
Bob Tilton, Ashland Planning Commission  
George & Betty Clair, Ashland

**NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) Discussion and possible action authorizing the City Manager and Corporation Counsel to negotiate property acquisition funded by the H.U.D. Special Purpose Grant for the Paramount/Parking Lot.

Motion was made by Gunderson, seconded by Stewart, authorizing the City Manager and Corporation Counsel to negotiate property acquisition funded by the H.U.D. Special Purpose Grant for the Paramount/Parking Lot. Upon roll call, voting aye were Commissioners Dickinson, Reeves, Gunderson, Stewart and Mayor Dunnigan. Nay -

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

**Mayor's Comments –**

Mayor Dunnigan stated that the Board of Commissioners will decide how money collected for the occupational tax is to be spent. He reported that the Board is committed to debt reduction and reduction of property taxes and insurance premiums. Public input will occur during the budget process. This meeting was done by invitation only with the goal of receiving positive suggestions and he opened the floor to comments.

Russ Powell and Kathy Timmons, Paramount Arts Center, gave a presentation regarding the improvement and expansion project currently underway. The Center requested \$1,000,000 for use in the project.

Bruce Mills, Vice-President, Board of Directors for the Kentucky Highlands Museum, stated the facility has commercial space available and asked the Commission to make sure any incentives offered are not one time only deals.

Megan Buell, Ashland Main Street Director, outlined the priorities of the Main Street Board:

- (1) Riverfront Development
- (2) Non-profit organizations – Highlands Museum, Art Gallery and Paramount Arts Center
- (3) Further development of downtown including upper levels of property

E. B. Gevedon, Economic Development Advisory Committee, requested that the Commission offer any incentives to existing businesses for expansion and retention as well as new businesses.

Jim Purgerson, Ashland Alliance, suggested exemptions be developed and that they be applied to residential as well as commercial.

Lew Dunn spoke on behalf of the Ashland/Boyd County Airport.

Jim Powers, representing the Boyd County Public Library, Ashland Planning Commission & the Historical Society, suggested increasing planning staff to address needs, sidewalks, parking, sewer system and passing Historical Preservation ordinance.

BZA submitted a written priority list as follows:

Debt Reduction

Pension Fund Obligations

Additional Reductions in Property Tax/Insurance Tax

Infrastructure – streets/sidewalks, water lines, sewer lines, water plant

Riverfront Development

Downtown Development – mutually tied to the riverfront

Industrial Park Development

Teen Center – video gaming, billiard tables, laser tag area, snack bar (low-profile but effective supervision) – City or private enterprise?

Central Park – continued development with emphasis on security (more lights, video surveillance if necessary), (modest) permanent ice skating facility, refurbish and add to Christmas light displays

NASCAR Track – at one time rumored for Boyd county area (if there is any truth in this rumor, the spillover to Ashland could be incredible) – worth investigating?

Recycling Program – keep on back burner until we see what the General Assembly

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**ADJOURNMENT**

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Mayor Dunnigan declared the meeting adjourned at 6:06 PM.

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A.R. DUNNIGAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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DEBORAH MUSSER  
CITY CLERK